



Bee Hummingbird by Ekaterina Chernetsova



CUBA

BIRDS IN FLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Zapata Swamp Biosphere Reserve

February 16-23, 2020

Please join us for the 7th Annual International Nature Photography Contest, held in the Zapata Swamp. At more than 1 million acres, the Zapata Swamp is one of the most extensive remnants of coastal Caribbean biodiversity left in the region. The area encompasses blue-water beaches, forests, rivers, lakes, flooded caverns, ponds, and swamp prairies.

This is an exciting opportunity to connect with resident photographers, learn about the country's fascinating natural areas, and join like-minded people from all over the world who are as enthusiastic about nature and photography as you are!

CONTEST HIGHLIGHTS

- Contestants may submit photos in the following categories: Birds in Flight; Endemic Birds; Birds in their Natural Habitat.
- Photographers may submit up to five images in each category, with works made in the Zapata Swamp during the event.
- Images should be submitted in JPEG format (300 dpi resolution).
- Full computer stations will be provided for editing. Minor corrections may be made for color, definition, contrast, etc. Photomontages and manipulated images will not be accepted.
- The jury will include noted Cuban and international photographers, who will judge photos on content as well as artistic and technical quality.
- Past contest winners and honorees have included several Holbrook travelers!

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

FEBRUARY 16 - HAVANA

Upon arrival in Havana, transfer to the hotel accompanied by contest staff. You will have the remainder of the afternoon and evening at leisure. Hotel check-in begins at 3 pm. *Overnight at Hotel Comodoro.*

FEBRUARY 17 - ZAPATA

This morning meet in the lobby of your hotel at 8:30 am for your transfer to Playa Girón. Enjoy a welcome cocktail before lunch, and then at 4 pm attend contest accreditation and technical council. Inauguration dinner this evening. *Overnight at Playa Girón Hotel. (BLD)*

FEBRUARY 18 - ZAPATA

Depart for the trails at 6:30 am. You will visit two trails, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The trails to choose from are Sopillar, Las Salinas, Los Hondones, Enigma de las Rocas, Las Bermejas, La Turba, and St. Thomas. Lunch will be at a local restaurant. Dinner and activities offered this evening. *Overnight at Playa Girón Hotel. (BLD)*

FEBRUARY 19-20 - ZAPATA

Depart for the trails at 6:30 am. You will again visit two trails, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, with lunch at a local restaurant. Return to the hotel later for dinner and activities. *Overnight at Playa Girón Hotel. (BLD)*

FEBRUARY 21 - ZAPATA

In the morning you will have time to select your photo submissions and deliver them to jury. The deadline for photo entries is 1 pm. Attend the Closing and Award Ceremony this evening, followed by dinner and a show to celebrate. *Overnight at Playa Girón Hotel. (BLD)*

FEBRUARY 22 - HAVANA

At 8 am have breakfast at the hotel. At 9 am proceed to check out and transfer to Havana. Explore Old Havana on your own for the remainder of the day. *Overnight at Hotel Comodoro. (B)*

FEBRUARY 23 - DEPARTURE

This morning you will be transferred to the Havana airport for your flight back to the U.S. (B)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL:

Contact Sandy Schmidt at schmidt@holbrooktravel.com or 877-907-5360 or visit holbrook.travel/birdsinflight-cu20



Photo by John Hannan

PROGRAM PRICING

\$975

Cost is per person in double occupancy.

Price includes accommodations, meals per itinerary with non-alcoholic beverages, in-country transportation, activities as mentioned, local guides in each region for duration of program, and Cuban visa.

Cost does not include international airfare, gratuities, or items of a personal nature. Holbrook can assist with your flight arrangements if desired.

TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

THE FINE PRINT

Cost is based on double occupancy; for a single room throughout the trip add \$125 per person. A \$200 deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. This deposit is refundable minus a \$100 cancellation fee until November 13, 2019, at which time non-refundable final payment is due.

Please note that this event is sponsored and organized by a Cuban tourism operation and is different from our other programs. All activities, contest rules, guiding, etc., are established by the Cuban organizing entity. This is not an itinerary with a comprehensive series of sites and points of interest. Holbrook cannot make modifications to the program, as it is an event organized by an outside entity.